

## THAT CONSUMPTION CURE.

DR. HIRSCHFELDER'S NEW SERUM  
AND ITS VALUE AS A REMEDY.

Consumption Alleged to Have Been Cured  
Shown to Doctors—San Francisco Physicians  
Are Divided in Opinion—A New York Physi-  
cian and a Chemist Say It Is Absurd.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 30.—The medical profes-  
sion of San Francisco is divided over Dr. Joseph  
C. Hirschfelder's discovery of an alleged cure  
for consumption. The discovery is backed by  
Cooper Medical College, of whose faculty he is a  
member, while those who deny his claims be-  
long to the rival College of Physicians and Sur-  
geons.

Dr. Hirschfelder and his supporters claim that  
with the aid of Koch's tuberculin he has per-  
fected a cure for consumption, which he has  
administered to patients who have been cured  
of consumption. The discovery is backed by  
Cooper Medical College, of whose faculty he is a  
member, while those who deny his claims be-  
long to the rival College of Physicians and Sur-  
geons.

Dr. Hirschfelder's discovery was first heard of  
last April, when the announcement was made  
that he had perfected a lymph which had been  
tried upon dogs and had proved successful, and  
which had also worked remarkable cures on  
human beings. The lymph was injected hy-  
perdermally, and the patients after a few days  
ceased to cough. An examination showed that  
the tubercles were healed by the action of the  
lymph or serum, and in cases of laryngeal tuber-  
culosis this healing could be seen plainly. Dr.  
Hirschfelder sent announcements of his experi-  
ments to many medical journals and societies,  
and from several sources received encourage-  
ment. The majority, however, appeared to con-  
sider his work chimerical.

Last Sunday, at the Cooper Medical College,  
Dr. Hirschfelder exhibited twenty consumptive  
patients who had been cured by his remedy.  
Some were in advanced stages and deep tuber-  
cles in their lungs had not entirely healed, but  
the sputum which they coughed up showed no  
traces of bacilli. The showing was so remark-  
able that when an account of it was printed,  
with an account of Dr. Hirschfelder's method of  
producing the serum, it created a great sensa-  
tion, and, being telegraphed all over the world,  
caused much discussion.

Dr. Hirschfelder worked on his cure for two  
years, and spent nearly \$150,000 in perfecting it.  
The work required costly apparatus and re-  
quired large expenditures for Koch's tubercu-  
lin. From Berlin Dr. Hirschfelder has im-  
ported \$4,000 worth of tuberculin, and he has  
bought enough veal to feed an army.

His method of perfecting oxytuberculin, put  
into simple English, is as follows: Veal is soaked  
in water, and its juice is then expressed, boiled,  
and filtered. Glycerine, peptone, and salt are  
put into the liquid, which is made slightly alkali-  
ne with carbonate of soda. In this liquid the  
germs of tubercle are grown. When they are  
fully developed, the liquid, with the germs,  
is boiled and filtered. The resultant liquid is  
tuberculin. This tuberculin is the basis of  
Dr. Hirschfelder's preparation. Peroxide of  
hydrogen is added, and the mixture is heated  
for 130 hours, at the end of which time it is  
oxytuberculin. This is clarified with a caustic  
soda solution, and 5 per cent. of boracic acid is  
put in to keep it from decomposing. The  
greatest care is necessary in all the details of  
making oxytuberculin. All bottles and utensils  
used are sterilized under 100° centigrade of heat.

Dr. Hirschfelder claims that in his use of  
peroxide of hydrogen lies the whole virtue of  
his discovery. He declares that it makes val-  
uable his serum, whereas Koch, working with  
monoxide of hydrogen, produced serum that had  
no permanent effect on tuberculosis. For five  
days he adds peroxide of hydrogen to his tuber-  
culin until he has put in the same amount of  
peroxide as of tuberculin. This peroxide is con-  
verted into water, but in the conversion it re-  
moves the poison from the tuberculin and fits it  
for curative purposes.

This oxytuberculin was first tested on a dog.  
Dr. Hirschfelder inoculated a healthy dog, and  
produced all the symptoms of consumption.  
The dog had a cough, lost flesh, and would not  
eat. Then oxytuberculin was administered, and in a  
few days a marked improvement was shown.  
In two months the dog was as well as ever, and  
showed no traces of the experiment.

Then the doctor was encouraged to try oxy-  
tuberculin on several patients who were willing  
to take the risk. Tubercles in the lungs or  
larynx were healed rapidly, the cough stopped,  
and the patients soon began to increase in weight.

Dr. Hirschfelder claims that in no case where  
his orders have been followed rigidly has there  
been any failure to cure. His most remarkable  
cure is that of Thomas H. Williams, Jr., a young  
sporting man who is as well known in New York  
as in San Francisco. Williams has raised a fine  
circuits for years, and has attended the big  
circuits for years. He contracted consumption  
more than a year ago and visited several New  
York experts. They all told him that he had not  
spent his time in the south, but that he had  
turned to his home in despair, but he turned to  
Dr. Hirschfelder's cure, he put himself under  
the doctor's care. Williams appeared on Sun-  
day and bore witness to the efficacy of the new  
cure. He declared he was thoroughly cured.

One patient with laryngeal tuberculosis  
opened his mouth, and the doctors were able to  
see scars of ulcers which had healed. In another  
patient, who had been treated only a few weeks,  
the cavities in the lungs had healed, but the  
sputum was still loaded with bacilli. Dr. Hirsch-  
felder's whole scheme is to manufacture tuber-  
culin here and supply it to the Pacific coast, just  
as factories in New York, Chicago, and St. Louis  
supply the East.

Dr. Hirschfelder does not among the physicians,  
but Dr. Hirschfelder, as a physician, is in the way  
of selling hundreds of bottles of his serum for \$3  
a bottle to consumers, who are in a chance of  
being cured.

ABSTRACT OF DR. HIRSCHFELDER'S  
HE Declares That Dr. Hirschfelder's Remedy  
Is Absolutely Worthless.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—I read a  
dispatch from San Francisco giving the formula  
of the alleged discovery of Dr. Joseph C. Hirsch-  
felder of a mixture he calls oxytuberculin, with

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